

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

5. (Currently Amended) The polymer associate of claim 39 or 40, wherein the monoacyl phospholipid or the mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipid phospholipids are obtained by enzyme digestion of lecithin.

6. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 5, comprising 60-80 mol % of monoacyl phospholipid.

7. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, wherein the polymeric material comprises a natural gum or a derivative thereof.

8. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, wherein the polymeric material comprises a synthetic polymer.

9. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, wherein the polymeric material comprises cationic or anionic groups.

10. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 9, wherein the polymeric material has carboxyl or sulfate ester groups.

11. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, wherein the polymeric material is selected from the group consisting of a salt of carboxymethylcellulose, aliginic acid, a salt of aliginic acid, a starch modified with anionic groups, agar, carrageenan, gum arabic, gum tragacanth, gum xanthan, pectin, carboxypolymethylene, a methyl vinyl ether/maleic acid copolymer, an ammonio methacrylate copolymer, chitosan, a methacrylic acid copolymer, and a hydrolysed gelatin.

12. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claims 39 or 40, wherein the polymeric material is present in an amount of at least 10 wt. % based on the weight of the composition.

13. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, further comprising a sugar.

14. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 39, further comprising a member selected from the group consisting of a polyol, a sucrose ester, a polyglyceryl ester, a higher fatty acid, and a polyol ester of a higher fatty acid.

16. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the ratio by weight of the phospholipid to the active compound is from 40:1 to 1:40.

17. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the active compound is present in molecular dispersion in the phospholipid.

18. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the active compound is present as discrete particles in the composition.

19. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 18, wherein the size of said particles is not more than 1 μm .

20. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the biologically active compound is cyclosporin A, Taxol, tacrolimus or a rampamycin.

21. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the biologically active compound is insulin, calcitonin or heparin.

22. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, wherein the biologically active compound is ubiquinone, tocopherol, carotenoid or a bioflavenoid.

23. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of 41, which is of powder of size 50-2000 μ m.

24. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of 41, which is of powder of size 50-1000 μ m.

25. (Previously Presented) The polymer associate of claim 41, which is of a granules of size 1-5 μ m.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the lipid and biologically active compound, if present, are dissolved in ethanol, the polymer is dissolved in water, the aqueous and ethanolic solutions are mixed, and the mixture is dried.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 27, comprising the further step of comminuting the composition after the solvent has been removed.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, comprising the further step of forming said comminuted composition into a tablet.

30. (Original) The method of claim 28, comprising the further step of filling said comminuted composition into a capsule.

31. (Currently Amended) A lipid composition for administration to a living organism, the composition comprising a biologically active compound and a lipid selected from the group consisting of a monoacyl phospholipid, and a diacyl phospholipid and a mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipids ~~membrane lipid~~ in association with a polymer, said composition being a solid that when stored in a glass container remains free flowing after storage for 3 months at 40° and 75% relative humidity

32. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 31, wherein the lipid has ~~lipids are selected from those which have~~ GRAS status, and wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of natural polysaccharide polymers, starches and their derivatives, cellulose and its derivatives and gelatines.

33. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 39 or 31, wherein the phospholipid comprises a natural lipid.

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 39 or 31, wherein the phospholipid is an enzyme modified natural lipid.

35. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 39 or 31, wherein the lipid is derived from egg or soya.

36. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 39 or 31, wherein the phospholipid comprises partly a synthetic lipid.

37. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 39 or 31, wherein the phospholipid comprises synthetic lipid.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently Amended) A phospholipid polymer associate prepared by removing an organic solvent or an organic solvent and water from a ~~homogeneous dispersion or~~ solution comprising:

- i) at least one of a monoacyl phospholipid, ~~and a diacyl~~ a diacyl phospholipid and a mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipids;
 - ii) a polymeric material; and
 - iii) an organic solvent or a mixture of an organic solvent and water,
- said phospholipid polymer associate being of particulate form.

40. (Currently Amended) A phospholipid polymer associate prepared by removing water from a homogeneous dispersion comprising:

- i) at least one of a monoacyl phospholipid, ~~and a diacyl~~ a diacyl phospholipid and a mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipids;
- ii) a natural polysaccharide; and

iii) water,

said phospholipid polymer associate being of particulate form.

41. (Previously Presented) The phospholipid polymer associate according to claim 40, wherein the natural polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of a starch, a starch derivative, a cellulose, a cellulose derivative and a gelatine.

42. (Previously Presented) The phospholipid polymer associate according to claim 39 or claim 40, comprising a biologically active compound, said biologically active compound being added to said homogeneous dispersion or solution prior to removal of said organic solvent or said water or is blended with said particulate phospholipid polymer associate.

43. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a phospholipid polymer associate, the method comprising:

i) forming a solution ~~homogeneous dispersion~~ by combining at least one of a monoacyl phospholipid, ~~and a diacyl~~ a diacyl phospholipid and a mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipids with a polymeric material, and

an organic solvent or a mixture of an organic solvent and water; and

ii) removing the organic solvent or mixture of the organic solvent and water, so that the resulting phospholipid polymer associate is in particulate form.

44. (Currently Amended) A method of preparing a phospholipid polymer associate, the method comprising:

i) forming a homogeneous dispersion by combining at least one of a monoacyl phospholipid, ~~and a diacyl~~ a diacyl phospholipid and a mixture of monoacyl and diacyl phospholipids with a natural polysaccharide polymer,

and water; and

ii) removing the water so that the resulting phospholipid polymer associate is in particulate form.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the polysaccharide polymer is selected from the group consisting of a starch, a starch derivative, a cellulose, a cellulose derivative and a gelatine.

46. (Previously Presented) A method of preparing a particulate composition, the method comprising preparing a particulate polymer associate according to claim 43 or 44 and combining the particulate polymer associate with a biologically active compound, wherein the biologically active compound is added to the homogeneous dispersion prior to removing the organic solvent or the water or is blended with the particulate phospholipid polymer associate.

47. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 32, wherein the natural polysaccharide polymer is selected from the group consisting of a starch, a starch derivative, a cellulose, a cellulose derivative and a cellulose gelatine.